

AMAGANSETT FREE LIBRARY 2023 PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET



This year our **Annual Library Budget Vote** will take place on **Tuesday, May 17th, from 2pm - 8pm** at the Amagansett School. The library Board of Trustees is allocating \$41,836.00 from reserve funds to help cover unexpected pandemic related expenses. **The 2023 proposed library budget asks the voters of Amagansett for a tax levy increase of \$126,354.00, for a total of \$1,275,031.00.** The total proposed budget is \$1,369,367.00.

This additional \$126,354.00 represents the library's response to the community's changing needs and our commitment to a robust service plan. Increases are proposed in three main areas- staff, library materials and programs, and capital expenditures.

Staff

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the library reduced staffing levels while providing the high-quality services that our community has come to appreciate. With an increase in service, the library anticipates an increased need for staff help. A proposed 3.19% increase in staff salaries intends to address new public service expectations as Amagansett expands. This investment in personnel comes with the annual increases in medical insurance, retirement, and other insurance costs. The total additional funds allocated toward staffing in 2023 is \$70,854.

Library Materials & Programs

In 2021 our eBook usage increased by 40%, and Children's books saw an increased use of 18%. Many users are also discovering Kanopy, our film streaming service. The proposed increase in books, e-materials and library programs is \$10,000.

Capital Expenditures

We are maintaining the capital expenditure budgets at 2022 levels to support keeping the library safe and accessible in 2023. Funds for preventative maintenance as the building approaches the twentieth renovation anniversary are a prudent investment in our historic building. Small increases in building insurance, ground maintenance, and technology expenditures amount to a \$9,000 increase.

Please contact Arielle Hessler, the Library Director with any questions or comments director@amagansettlibrary.org or call (631) 267-3810.